The Judependent.

OSKALOOSA, KANSAS.

J. W. ROBERTS. Editor.

Saturday, January 17, 1863.

Incompetent Officers.

The great curse of the Union cause has been the incompetency of a large proportion of the officers in command of our armies. We have never yet had a General who has followed up a victory -we have had but few who could gain victories; at least, victories that amount to any thing.

Now, it is manifestly a self-evident proposition, that no men, however brave; -and braver men than most of our so diers never lived-can accomplish much while led by incompetent officers. It is an utter impossibility for men to carry forward a successful war while those who govern them are imbeciles or trai-

As we have said before, West Point has proved a failure. Of all the generals now in the field who were educated at that institution - pensioners on the bounty of the United States-not one has yet shown a first-rate capacity for generalship, while ninety-nine out of every hundred has proved a dead loss and a dead weight in the service.

If we ever put down the rebels we must find some generals. We have the men and the means to do it-all we lack is the head. West Point never can make generals; but that much lauded institution has filled our country ber with military blockheads, who have, most unfortunately, received positions in the army which give them a controling influence. The principal and prominent feature in the mental constitution of these men is BIGOTRY—they are the military aristocracy of the land, and the rest of the soldiers and officers are wise policy for years? the mud sills. The whole of them put colonel. And yet these blockheads Brown. have controlled the movements of our armies from the commencement. Is it any wonder nothing has been accomplished?

mind continually, and that is, that West Point can't put brains in a man's head; and if God don't give a man the endow- there a big screw loose somewhere? to put a man over the rank and file, to mean the book and the words, not the direct men and hold their lives in his hands, simply because he has been educated at Uncle Sam's expense, is as great a piece of folly as could well be committed.

A bad officer should be removed at treason. He holds the lives of hundreds or thousands in his hands, and to Kausas. the best interests of the country.

for all the disasters that occur from the Senate. He works fa thfully, and we inefficiency of officers who have been think his sims are to secure such legistried and found wanting; and it is a lation as will benefit his constituents at fearful responsibility.

These are grave thoughts for the consideration of the 'powers that be,' as well as the public at large, and too much attention cannot be given to the subject. We must have generals before we win substantial victories.

The Old and the New.

On last Tuesday the old administration of our State government, with Gov. Robinson at the head, went out of power, and the new, under Gov. Carney, went

The outgoing administration has certainly been a failure. Whatever else may be said of the ex-officers, they have conferred no dignity upon themselves or their positions, and have not so managed affairs as to benefit the State, but the reverse. Aside from absolute crime. the worst that can be said of an officer is that he is a failure.

We have none of the bitter ill-feeling towards Gov. Robinson which we see manifested in many quarters through out the Sate; we once este med him very highly, and looking on from a distan e, were glad to hear of his election as Chief Magistrate of the new State. ride. The weather was extremely But we surely are within bounds when warm for the season-the thermometer rebel Captain gives, who was taken priswe say, as we do above, that he has ranging at about 65 degrees. proved a failure. Whether any thing We found the capital nearly full of more, he knows, we do not. Time, strangers. Most of the members were which rights most wrongs, may deter here; but the "third house" had about attempt; but failed. They retired, and prove a great auisance so soon as they mine this point,

Letters from the Capitol

of that body will receive a tention from seek n !. our correspondent. We hope any at- The contest for Spanker of the House are just where we want them!' And a my when there is danger of an attack tempts at rescality will be exposed. was vigorously conducted by the friends then turning to his men, he said: 'Give from the rebels. The recent attempt

B Gratz Brown.

mentioned prominently in connection ward Russell, of Doniphan, and W. P. with the U. S. Senatorship for Missouri Douthit, of Shawnee. But after the Perhaps no better man could be selected for the place at the present juncture. He is a tried man : he has been tested under circumstances which few men could successfully contend with, and has proved genuine metal. He has the advocacy of the right.

He is a man of fine ablility, too, as well as indomitable courage, and his hampionship of any measure is sure to secure for it attention and consideration. He has made his mark in the world, and arisen to distinction by the force of his character and untiring ef-

Missouri is to-day reaping the benefits-as far as she is reaping benefits at all-from his labors. Had his advice been taken years ago, there would have been no recent devastation of that State by bands of robbers and traitors; but she would have been in the enjoyment of peace and tranquility; and until she dees follow his advice, there will be no permanent peace in her borders; but like the troubled sea, she will cast up nire and dirt," until right and truth

No better man could be found for the crisis than Mr. Brown. He is known to be true and reliable. He has a name and influence abroad, and is bonored by tens of thousands in other States. His talents will secure him honorable body of which he may become a mem-

Missouri has virtually adopted the Emancipation policy, and is about to set out on the highway of Freedom, and who could more properly represent her yesterday. in the national councils at such an im por ant juncture than he, who has been the firm and consistant advocate of that

We trust the legislature of our sister together would not make material for State will do itself the honor of select-

gar Sam. Wood is out in what he great things and quite astounding revelations. What's the matter Sam! Isn't never can make a general of him. And be a curiosity, if nothing more - we

Senator Lane

Has introduced two very important bills into the Senate of the United States, one relative to the Pacific Rail oad, and the once, no difference what his position or other for the removal of the Indians how many clamorers he may have—the from this State to some new place of more the worse. It is suicidal to keep residence - we believe in the Indian such in command-it is murder-it is territory. If carried through Congress, these measures will be of great benefit

Whatever else may be said of Gen. Governmen is, therefore, responsible Lane, he is not an idle member of the

Governor's Message.

The message of Gov. Carney is an able production, and will command respect at home and abroad. It is some what lenghty, but is not tiresomely so Questions of public interest are handled with skill and recommendations made

which wisdom must sanction. Kansas has no cause to be ashamed of her Chief Executive for the present term. So favorable a commencement augurs well for the new administration and we hope it will leve power as it enters upon duty, with the full confidence of the people.

Correspondence.

Letters from the Capital.

Topeka, Kansas, Jan. 13th. 1863. DEAR INDEPENDENT:-We arrived at he State capital about 4 o'clock P. M. Sunday, after a tedious and tiresome

by the two houses were met at every ered the battery theirs, as he heard a change. Will be a feature of our journal dur- "turn and corner" with the question Lieutenant give the order : ing the session of the legislative that "Are you a member?" the questioner will prove of interest to our readers at the same time presenting a card Perhaps some of the inside workings designating the office which he was

We see the name of this gentleman Josiah Kellogg, of Leavenworth, Ed- ges of shot) nominations were made in the House withdrew their names, and Mr. Kellogg was elected by 74 votes.

For Chief Clerk, the prominent, indeed the only candidates, were D. B. stood by principle when it was perilous Emmert, Esq., of Bourbon County, and to body and life and pecuniary interests, A. R. Banks, Esq., of Douglass; but and yet he was unshrinkingly faithful owing to the precarious state of Mr. Emmert's health, he this morning withdrew from the contest, and left a clear

The following are the names of Clerk, - Welsh; Docket Clerk, William Wilson: Engrossing Clerk, -

-: Enrolling Clerk, -Sergeant-at-Arms.-Sergeant-at-Arms, -Doorkeeper, - Downard : Pages, Griffith and Farew. The officers elect who were present, came forwar! and were sworn in by the Speaker, when

In the Senate John Francis and Dan. M. Adams made a close race for Secretary; the former was elected by a small majority. The names of the other officers of the Senate I have not been

The Governor's Message will be de livered to-morrow in the Hall of the House. By those who have seen it, this document is spoken of as an able positions, and his industry will make State paper, reflecting great credit up n his presence felt in any deliverative its author, and recommending measures 1863 founded in wisdom and sound policy.

There was no public inauguration of the new State officers. All of them were sworn into office privately, and entered upon their respective duties

Among the dignitaries to be seen at Judge Bailey, Judge Watson, Judge ton, Hon S A. Stinson, Judge Gamble, Ex Gov. Shannon, and a host of o her a brigadier general, hardly for a good ing as one of the Senators B GRATZ names that I do not now call to mind.

Торека, Кап., Јап. 14 h. 1863. DEAR INDEPENDENT .- The two houscalls a "Pospecius" of a forthcoming es of the legislature assembled in joint "Life of James H. Lane"-the redoubt- convention at 3 o'clock P. M. to-day n the hall of the House of Represen tives. The Governor was announced, when all eyes were turned toward the ments for a general, that institution Certainly a book written by Sam. will by the State officers, passed up the aisle to the Speaker's chair, and was introduced to the presiding officer, Lieut. matter; for of that we know nothing. Gov. T. A. Osborn. He was then introduced to the assembly, who rose in recognition. When order was again restored, the Governor delivered his message in person.

The Governor made a fine appear ance. His message was lengthy, but was listened to with marked attention by the vast assembly. It is a plain, practical State paper, and for a document of its character, abounds in pass ages of tine oratory. Every body is pleased with the message. It is, indeed. but a small complement to say that it is the best message ever delivered to Kansas Legislature.

I send you herewith a printed copy

Army Correspondence.

From a private letter written by Lieut. I. C. BURNETT, of this place, to Mr. N. CHAPMAN, we are permitted to make the following extracts:

FAVETTEVILLE, Ark., Dec. 20, '62 . . . I suppose ere this reaches you, you will have heard the full details of the battles of Cane Hill and Prairie Grove. The latter was a hard fought field. The rebels are poor marksmen; with the chance they had they ought to have killed and wounded at least three times as many of us as they did. They were well armed, many regiments with new Minnie rifles. We foug at them part of the time three to one, and killed three to their one; probably this was owing to there being more of them to shoot at. We were victorious, but I assure you the chances looked slim at one time. and had it not been for the artillerymen belonging to Allen's and Rabb's Batteries, the day would have been lost; but they fought as though there were but two chances, victory or death.

I will relate a little incident that a oner. He said two regiments of them were ordered to charge upon and take one of these batteries. They made the

"Sergeaut, spike your guns!" "This," said he, "gave us new cour age at the time, But the Sergeant, instead of obeying the order, replied : Spike hell and damnation! They

of the several candidates, who were them double shot, boys!' (double char-

"The Sergeant's order was obeyed by every gunner, which made it a litt too hot for us, and our men fell back in utter confusion," concluded the rebel. nev & Co., Leavenworth. to-day, Messrs. Russell and Douthit [That Sergeant ought te be promoted at once.-En 1

This occurred between sundown and dark, and with it the battle ended.

chance at him the next day. Our men 1,100 of which is manufactured. fought well, especially when it is considered that nearly all were new regi-I was wounded in the left knee dur-

ing the engagement. If I have good field to Mr. Banks, who received 75 luck, I think it will get well without a stiff joint. Two or three very small pieces of bone have been taken out. The following are the names of the I am getting considerably tired of other officers elected in the House: Assistant Clerk, John W. Day; Journal tunate when I take into consideration some that are here, who will do well if

they get out alive. We have two splendid surgeons our regiment. They not only understand their business, but at end to it-Dr. Hogeboom and Dr. Adams, the latter from Grasshopper Fails We have comfortable quarters here in the M. E. sent here, to the general hospital, for the House adjourned until 9 o'clock of as could be expected.

One of our Company by the name of Wm. F. Bachelor died yesterday of dis-

ease of the lungs. We know but little of what is going on in the rest of the world. I believe I have had but two papers and three letters since I have been down here. Our ommand is 20 miles distant, at Cane Fraternally Yours, JOHN C. BURNETT.

State Agricultural Society.

This society met in the Senate Hall tings. on Tuesday evening, January 13th

The Society was called to order by F. G. Ad ms, Esq., Secretary, and Hon. L.D. Baily was called to the chair.

After some preliminary business the books of the society were opened for the names of new members. Hon. L D. Baily and J.W.Sponable, of Johnson Co., the capital now, are, Judge Kingman, each paid ten dollars into the Treasu- son, we understand, will contest the ty, and became life members, and for-Ludlum, Judge Thatcher, Judge Hor- tr-five annual menthers were received. A committee of one from each county

epresented, was appt by the Prest. & an Executive Committee for the Sociehey were unanimously elected.

Doniphan Co., J. P. Johnso : Neme ha Co., J S Madden; Douglas, G. W. ton, D. L. Lakin, Lyon, J. R Swallow complete. It appears that the move-Miami, Abraham Ellis; Linn, J.C. Mar-ment was a blunder, and that preparashall; Davis, S. M. Strickler; Wabaun- jons were not yet complete for the at-

cutive committee was requested to en- killed, wounded and prisoners wa gage some person to deliver an address about 3.500 pefore the Society at its next annual

Adjourned to meet on next Friday

Kansas News

Three theives attempted to run of with three horses belonging to A S Nelles, Esq , of Leavenworth on Friday night; but the gentleman discovered them in time to fire at them as they were about to start with their stolen steeds. when they abandoned their prey, and ful. made tracks for parts unknown. The horses, saddled and bridled by the robbers, were loose for a time, but were all sissippi, and our gun boats are on the recovered. The thieves made good their watch for it. escape. We hope justice will overtake them somewhere and somehow.

Tuesday there was no ice in the stream, of low water in the James river. but the cold weather since then has probably changed the aspect of affairs hourne, N. C. as being 55,000, and a in this respect.

Gen Blunt has returned to Kansas on

A disorderly and disgraceful row occured at the "Pike's Peak House" (why are such dens permitted to exlast, between a number of sodiers of the but finally weathered the storm. The in the instant death of one of the Kan sas troops - shot through the head and the wounding of several others on both sides, one of them probably fatally. Why are the soldiers permitted to run four to one. about loose, carrying their arms with them, to kill each other and endanger the lives of citizens? Can't Uncle Sam find better use than this to put his arms and his men to? If not he had better disband the latter and lock up the

Some of the merchants of Leaventers, and refuse to take them. They are getting entirely too common, and will three to one of the legislature. Can- then made a second charge. This time go beyond the legitimate sphere of supdidates for the various offices to be filled they so far succeeded that they consider plying the local difficiency in small

Capt. Rabb, of Rabb's Battery which has done such splendid artillery fighting in nearly all the recent battles, was in Leavenworth a few days ago. We trust all the officers are not leaving the generals to keep wide awake.

Twenty bushels of cotton seed have been shipped from down South to Car- Sec. of War.

Some specimens of Kansas plug to bacco - raised by Capt. Houston Anderson county -are pronounced by I believe Hindman to be an old cow- judges, equal to any raised in Missouri. ard, or he would have given us another The Capt has raised over 2,000 pounds,

A fellow by the name of Pickles in company with another-not pickles, but fellow-went over into Platte Co. Mo. broke into the house of a Mr. Rusk, took two hundred dollars in me ney, and other articles of value, and were bound over in the sum of \$ 300. A rather sour

The Leavenworth papers chronicle runaways about every day, and sometimes several in a day to the great danger and repeated narrow escape of pedestrians. We have observed great carelessness on the part of drivers in leaving hores and team unnitched in the streets. Church. All the sick and wounded are The municipal regulatins should be very strict and severe upon such carelessness, and faithfully enforced.

The weather during the latter part of last week and the first of this appears to have been of the same balmy and spring like character all over the Sate.

Some of the farmers in other parts of the Sate have been plowing their ground during the pleasant weather of the past three weeks.

A gentleman in Doniphan county has bought 60,000 Catawba grape cut-

Gov. Robinson appointed one Cobb. of Lawrence, as Chief Justice, just before going out of office. He must be a Cobb without corn to accept the place under the circumstances. We think Robinson would have shown better taste to have let the matter rest until the new administration came into power. His act looks had on the face of it. Wat-

MURDER. - The Bourbon county Mon-

Secretary, to report names to be elected Harris was found on Monday on the prairie, about six miles north of this ty, who reported the following, and place. It is said that it was all shot to pieces. Noboly appears to know any thing about it.

News of the Week.

Sherman's defeat at Vicksburg was Platte Co. R. R. Time Table. tack when it was made. Somebody is On motion of Judge Horton, the exe- to blame for the failure. Our loss in Connects with Trains on Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad, and with Stage Lines for all places in this State, and west and south of us.

The road is in good tunning order, and passengers should select this route

The rebels are making great efforts to hold Vick-burg and regain Tennessee Important Facts.

Constant writing for six mooths is done cheaper with Gold Pens than with Steel Pens; therefore, it is economy to use Gold Pens.

The Gold Pen remains unchanged by years of continued use, while the Steel Pen is everchanging by corrosion and wear; therefore, perfect unformity of writing is obtained only by the use of the Gold Pen.

The Gold Pen is always ready and teliable, while the Steel Pen must often be consensed and a new one selected; therefore there is great swing in time in the use of the Gold Pen.

Gold is capable of receiving any degree of clasticity, so that the Gold Pen is exactly adapted to the hand of the writer; therefore, the neives of the hand and arm are not injured, as is known to be the case by the use of Steel Pens.

See 'The Pen is mightier than the Sword,' in another column.

All northern Virginia is alive with negroes who have escaped from bondage since the Emancipation Proclamation. Say the slaves don't know any thing that is going on!

Our forces are concentrating in North Carolina for a descent upon the railroad from Richmond to Charleston. It is thought the movement will be success-

The rebels have run a ram gun-b at down the Arkansas river into the Mis It is reported in Richmond that the

rebel gun boat Merrimac is below Fort The Missouri river is falling. On Darling, and cannot return on account The rebels report our forces at New-

formidable fleet at Beaufort.

The two iron-clad vessels of the Monitor school, Passaic and Montank are safe at anchor in the harbor of Beau fort, N. C. The former suffered con siderably during her passage, and it ist?) in Leavenworth, on Suurday night was feared at one time would be lost. Wisconsin 3d and Kansas 8th during latter struck on the shoals near Beaufort, which many shots were fired, resulting where she remained some hours, but came off safely at last.

.The rebels were driven back from Springfield, Mo., with more loss that they inflicted upon our men, three o

The tebels re-captured Galveston Texas, a few days ago, and took the Harriet Lane, a vessel that has giver us much trouble. It was named, we believe, for the niece of Buchanan, who tigured as lady of the White House during the old P. F.'s term of office and it is hardly to be wondered that it worth are down on the issue of shinplas- should prove a failure, as every thing connected with that miserable detard

> The Richmond papers publish flaming accounts of Morgan's exploits in Kentucky. They do not give the other

It is reported that the rebels lost as many at Vicksburg as we did. Doubt-The rebels took 300 men at the cap AND CIVIL ENGINEER.

ure of Galveston. Descrious have become alarmingly

on Springfield Mo., should cause our numerous among the troops recently, owing, in part, to lack of pay. The matter has elicited the attention of the

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M. E. Cherch. THERE will be Religious Ser-

March 7th & Sh Fourth Quarterly Meeting.

Preaching or General Prayer Meeting at 7 P.M. Class Meeting after the morning preaching,

Citizens and strangers are respectfully invited

Mew Advertisements.

United States Marshal's Sale.

township number nine (9), range number seven-tion (17); containing one-hundred and six y (160) acres; and the south-west quarter of sec-tion number thirty-two (32), township number seven (7), range number seventeen (17), contain-ing one hundred and sixty (160) acres. Jan. 5th, 2862. JAMES L. McDOWELL, 124 4-w 86 U.S. Marshal.

Sunday School and Bible Class at 9 A. M.

reaching by Rev. L. D. Price and other

N. W. Taylor,
N. W. Taylor,
J. W. Roberts,
D. Dickinson,
J. Boucher,
N. W. Taylor,
J. W. Roberts,
D. Dickinson,
J. Boucher,
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the exercises of

D. DICKINSON, Paster

Prenching at 10% o'clock, A. M., by

14th, 21st, 28th, 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th,

March 1st.

March 5th, at 7 P. M.,

and at 21 P. M

AGENTS

said Court, at my office in Oshalo en, in said County, this second do of January, A. D. 1863.

124 7 P. E. HAVENS, Clerk.
Reed & Whent, Att'ye for Pl'ff.

Shaw, are further notified, that an etachment has been issued in this the tiod suit, and that the Sherff of said

Jofferson has, under and by virtue thereof, jedlerson has, under and by virtue thereof, ed the following described tracts of land, lying and being in the s id County of Jenamely: The north east and the nor

quarters of section four (4) in township (1), of range seventeen (17), and the ne

igment rendered accordingly; and land will be sold to satisfy the sar

fractional quarter of section five (5) in towashis eleven (11) of range seventeen (17), all in Jeffer son County, State of K. mans, as your peoperty And you are further notified, that you are required to answer said Petition on or before the 21st day of March. A D. 1*63, and that unless that the county of the

In witness whereof I, the signed Clerk of said Court set my hand and affix the

Order of Publication

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Notice of Appraisement.

Jessen County.

Jessen Newell vs. Leroy E. Curry, to Leroy Curry, Defindant as above entitled. Leroy Curry, you are hereby notified, that by virtue an order of sale to me directed and deliver issued out of the First District Court of the Stock Kansus, sitting in and for Jefferson County, said State, I will, on

aid State, I will, on Monday February 24.

JOHN N. HALL, GOUNTY SURVEYOR

AT A BARGAIN! I'de undersigned offers for an'e, at very low figures, a quarter section of Land, beautiful y situated in one of the best portions of Kanssa good settlement surrounds it, and two States